



Week of Jan. 16, 2008 – Jan. 22, 2008

## Professional Military Associations

**"Air Force professional [associations] are important to Air Force people and the mission. These organizations enhance the professional development of our Airmen and provide visibility for our air, space and cyberspace missions at a grass roots-level around the nation."  
– Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Rodney J. McKinley**

Many private organizations develop professional skills and associations for individuals in many career fields and technical specialties. Membership in such associations may provide additional opportunities for mentoring as well as broadening technical expertise.

There are numerous reasons to join a professional military association. The following is a list of some of those reasons.

- They build camaraderie, esprit de corps and provide insight to military legislation
- Many associations raise money for Airmen and their families. Many also provide scholarship opportunities for Airmen to further their education
- Professional military associations know what is needed by the profession (whether it's a career field specific-association, or for all Airmen of all ranks) as members are the professionals themselves
- Members are able to network with each other, and provide leadership, vision, mission and values
- Most professional associations provide a wide variety of support services that include membership benefits, leadership development, resources, advocacy support, and professional development
- On a personal level, the associations validate the work that you and fellow Airmen do every day. The existence of the association communicates to those outside the field that your work is valuable, and is worthy of their respect and support

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*Airman's Roll Call is designed for supervisors at all levels to help keep Airmen informed on current issues, clear up confusion, dispel rumors, and provide additional face-to-face communication between supervisors and their teams.*